(c) the names and details of State Governments where screening of new born babies has been make mandatory alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government does not propose to make screening of newborn babies mandatory. As per the State Programme Implementation Plans for the Reproductive and Child Health programme for the year 2008-09, screening of newborn babies is not mandatory in any state.

Vaccine for Aids

†1601. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVED:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the HIV infection is increasing in those States where it was less in the past;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the vaccine, which was tested on thirty volunteers in the National AIDS Research Institute, Pune had already failed in Germany and Belgium;

(d) whether the number of HIV positive patients has increased in Delhi and some other States during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government to prevent the infection of HIV?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (*SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI*): *(a) Yes, Sir. An increasing trend of* HIV infection has been documented in Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Orissa, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Union Territory of Puducherry, although the adult prevalence rates are below the national average, except in Puducherry, as per the results of the annual sentinel surveillance, 2006.

(b) The risk of HIV transmission increases if people practice high risk behaviour such unprotected sex with multiple partners, men having sex with men and injecting drug use. The above mentioned States have large number of out migration to high prevalence far flung areas, number of national highways and large number of truckers passing through; comparatively low levels of awareness and demand for services; and less well developed services delivery for preventive care and counseling and testing.

(c) The data from Belgium and Germany showed that the vaccine was well tolerated and safe but no significant immune response was reported. The national scientific and ethics committees recommended the study at Pune although the vaccine was weakly immunogenic in Belgium and Germany as different results can occur in different ethnic groups.

(d) The number of HIV positive people living in Bihar, Jharkhand, J & K, Orissa, Rajasthan, West Bengal & Puducherry has increased while no significant increase has been noted in Delhi.

(e) Under the National AIDS Control Programme (2007-2012), up scaling of targeted interventions among the high risk group, behaviour change communication for improved

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

awareness, expanding counseling and testing services, blood safety, support and treatment of HIV infected persons including the treatment of opportunistic infections, provision of anti-retroviral drugs and mainstreaming of HIV intervention strategies are being implemented for the prevention of new infections.

Donations for medical admissions

†1602. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that several medical colleges are giving admissions to students by taking money;

(b) whether the police have received several complaints in this regard;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to prevent such fraud in admissions in medical colleges; and

(d) the details of States from where admissions have been given to students by the Department of Health and Family Planning by taking money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 14.8.2003 in the case of Islamic Academy of Education Vs. State of Karnataka & Others and Judgement dated 12.8.2005 in the case of P.A. Inamdar & Ors. Vs. State of Maharashtra and Ors., with a view to check capitation fee and profiteering in institutions, had given directions to the State Governments to constitute Fee Structuring Committees as per the scheme envolved by the Hon'ble Court. The fees so fixed by such Committees are to be charged from the students by the colleges for the period as may be fixed by the Committee from time to time. Any violation in charging of fee is to be looked after by the concerned state Governments.

Sale of G.M. foods without proper labelling

1603. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that G.M. food products which are health hazardous for consumers are being sold in the market without labelling;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government in regard thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has deferred the issue of Notification regulating the labeling of G.M. food products which was finalized after detailed discussion by expert group; and

(d) if so, the specific reasons for withholding the issue of the Notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The manufacture, use, import

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.